

Paper #3

Jeff Speaks
PHIL 10100

due: the end of the day on Sunday, December 11

In your third paper, you should answer one of the following four questions:

1. Can we have knowledge of the external world?
2. Is moral realism, moral relativism, or moral nihilism true?
3. Is the right action always the action that brings about the best consequences?

If you would like your TA to look at a rough draft for you, you must give them the draft a full week before the paper is due: so, by the end of the day on Sunday, December 4.

Unlike previous papers, this one need not be divided into numbered sections. But, as with those papers, in this one you must accomplish a few different things:

- (i) Say what you think the correct answer to your question is.
- (ii) State what is in your view the strongest argument or arguments in favor of your answer to the question.
- (iii) State the two or more objections to your answer which you think are the most challenging.
- (iv) Give what you think is the best response to each of these two objections.
- (v) Explain why in the end you think that the argument(s) in favor of your view outweigh the objections that can be raised against it.

What I am asking you to do in this paper is to use the skills you developed on the first two papers within the form of a more conventional essay. In doing so, don't lose your focus on the argumentative task – as explained in (i)-(v) – at hand.